

Please amend the claims as follows:

In the claims:

1-13. (Withdrawn)

14. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a composition, comprising ~~the step of:~~ combining a therapeutic agent, a polymer having host and/or guest functionality, and a complexing agent to form the composition, wherein ~~said polymer and said agent form a particulate composite and~~ said polymer and said complexing agent form an inclusion complex.

Q2 15. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 14, wherein said therapeutic agent is first combined with said polymer ~~to form said particulate composite and said particulate composite~~ and the resulting mixture is then combined with said complexing agent such that said polymer and said complexing agent form an inclusion complex.

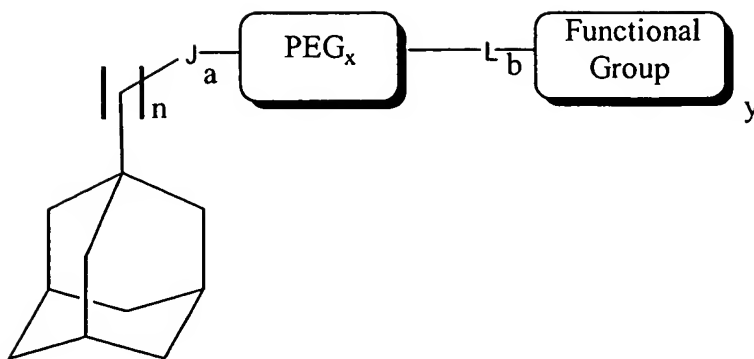
16. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 14, wherein said polymer is first combined with said complexing agent to form an inclusion complex and said inclusion complex is combined with said therapeutic agent ~~such that said polymer and said therapeutic agent form said particulate composite.~~

17. (Cancelled)

Q3 18. (Currently Amended) A method composition of claim ~~14~~ 5, wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from ~~the group consisting of~~ an antibiotic, a steroid, a polynucleotide, small molecule pharmaceutical, a viruse, a plasmid, a peptide, a peptide fragment, a chelating agent, a biologically active macromolecule, and mixtures thereof.

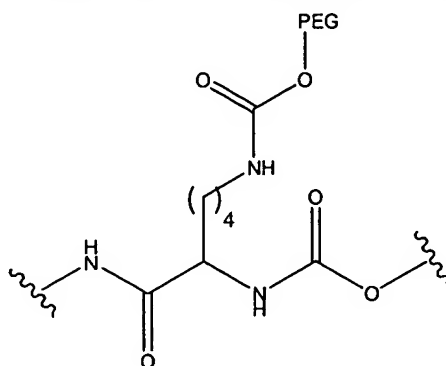
19. (Original) A method composition of claim 18, wherein said therapeutic agent is a polynucleotide.

Q4 20. (Currently Amended) A method composition of claim ~~14~~ 17, wherein the complexing agent is an adamantane derivative of the formula:



wherein

J is $-\text{NH}-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{NH}-\text{CH}_2$, $-\text{NH}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_d-$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{SS}-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-(\text{CH}_2)_e-\text{O}-\text{P}(=\text{O})(\text{O}-$



$(\text{CH}_2)_e-\text{Ad})\text{O}-$,

, or

$-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^1)-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}(\text{R}^1)-\text{NH}-$;

Ad is adamantyl;

R^1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, an ester or salt thereof; or $-(\text{CH}_2)_a-\text{CONH}_2$;

PEG is $-\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_z-$, where z varies from 2 to 300;

L is H, $-\text{NH}$, $-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-(\text{CH}_2)_e-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{S}(=\text{O})_2-\text{HC}=\text{CH}_2-$, $-\text{SS}-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$, or a carbohydrate residue;

a is 0 or 1;

b is 0 or 1;

d ranges from 0 to 6;

e ranges from 1 to 6;

n ranges from 0 to 6;

y is 0 or 1; and

x is 0 or 1.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein complexing agent comprises at least one functional group and a host/guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with the polymer.
23. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the at least one functional group includes a group selected from a ligand, a nuclear localization signal, an endosomal release peptide, an endosomal release polymer, or a membrane permeabilization agent.
24. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that increases the solubility of the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.
25. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the at least one functional group includes a moiety that stabilizes the composition under biological conditions relative to a composition of the polymer and therapeutic agent alone.
26. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the at least one functional group includes a therapeutic agent reversibly bound to the complexing agent.
27. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the polymer comprises a host moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a guest moiety of the complexing agent.
28. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the polymer comprises a guest moiety that forms an inclusion complex with a host moiety of the complexing agent.
29. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the complexing agent further comprises a spacer group positioned between the functional group and the host/guest moiety.
30. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the guest moiety is an adamantyl group and the host moiety is a cyclodextrin moiety.
31. (New) wherein the host/guest of the complexing agent is selected from adamantyl, diadamantyl, naphthyl, cholesterol, cyclodextrin, and mixtures thereof.